North Carolina Self-Verification Guide: Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents & Caregivers)

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North Carolina Self-Verification Guide

Detecting Possible Misuse of Benefits and Services in Your Name (Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians)

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Purpose: This document provides a North Carolina–specific, legally safe pathway for parents, caregivers, and guardians to verify whether public benefits or services were billed, paid, or claimed using their own identity or that of a dependent, and outlines official steps to take when discrepancies are identified.

Introduction

Public discussions sometimes describe cases where services appear to have been billed, reimbursed, or publicly funded in a person's name—or a child's name—without the family's knowledge. In North Carolina, there is **no single public, name-searchable clearinghouse** that aggregates all program payments or claims.

Records are held by administering agencies under state and federal confidentiality rules. The practical approach is **self-verification**: review official records you are entitled to as a parent/guardian, then use formal dispute and fraud-reporting channels if discrepancies appear.

Section 1 — Licensed / Regulated Child Care Verification (NC DHHS DCDEE)

Child care licensing and oversight in North Carolina are administered through the NC Department of Health and Human Services (NCDHHS), Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE). **[1]**

1.1 Official child care facility search (public)

DCDEE Child Care Facility Search:
https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/childcaresearch **[2]**

1.2 Official DCDEE portal home

DCDEE main site:
https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/ **[1]**

Section 2 — Child Care Subsidy (Help Paying for Child Care) (NCDHHS / County DSS)

North Carolina's Child Care Subsidy program uses state and federal funds to help eligible families afford child care through a voucher system, and applications are typically handled through the county Department of Social Services (DSS) where the family resides. **[3][4]**

2.1 Official program overview (NCDHHS)

NCDHHS Child Care Subsidy (Help Paying for Child Care): [https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy-[REDACTED]](https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy-[REDACTED]) **[3]**

2.2 Official "How to Apply" guidance (DCDEE)

DCDEE Financial Assistance — How to Apply: https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/Services/Financial-Assistance/How-to-Apply **[4]**

2.3 What parents/guardians should review

- **Eligibility/authorization notices** (provider name, approved dates, and any family copayment).
- **Provider identity** using the official DCDEE facility search (Section 1.1). **[2]**
- **Dates of care/attendance** versus what you believe occurred.
- **Any provider changes** reflected in notices/communications (retain copies).

Section 3 — Health Coverage Claims (North Carolina Medicaid) and Fraud Reporting

Health services billed under North Carolina Medicaid generate claims records through program and plan systems. Reviewing member statements/claims history is often the most direct way to detect services billed in a parent's or child's name that the family does not recognize.

3.1 Official Medicaid program integrity and reporting options (NCDHHS)

NCDHHS Medicaid — Office of Compliance & Program Integrity (OCPI) (reporting options and tip line): https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetingsnotices/office-compliance-program-integrity-ocpi **[5]**

3.2 Official NCDHHS "Report Fraud" entry point

NCDHHS — Report Fraud: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/contact/report-fraud **[6]**

Section 4 — Public Records Requests (North Carolina Public Records Law, Chapter 132)

North Carolina public records access is addressed in Chapter 132 of the North Carolina General Statutes. Records involving minors or individual benefit/health cases may be restricted by confidentiality rules; however, parents/guardians can request records they are legally entitled to receive and request explanations for denials or redactions.

4.1 Official statute portal (NC General Assembly)

NC General Statutes — Chapter 132 (Public Records):
https://www.ncleg.gov/Laws/GeneralStatuteSections/Chapter132 **[7]**

4.2 Practical request structure (recommended)

1. Identify yourself as the parent/guardian and list the dependent(s) involved.
2. Specify the program (child care subsidy, Medicaid, etc.), provider name(s), and date range.
3. Request "records sufficient to show" authorizations, payments, attendance records (if applicable), and/or claims for that period.
4. Ask for a written explanation of any confidentiality limitations, exemptions, and redactions applied.

Section 5 — Reporting Suspected Fraud (North Carolina Official Channels)

Preserve documentation first (letters, notices, provider names/addresses, dates, screenshots, attendance records). Then report through official channels appropriate to the program type.

5.1 Medicaid fraud, waste, and abuse

- OCPI reporting options (includes tip line):
  https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetingsnotices/office-compliance-program-integrity-ocpi **[5]**
- NCDHHS Report Fraud hub: https://www.ncdhhs.gov/contact/report-fraud **[6]**

5.2 Child care subsidy concerns

Use the official "How to Apply" and program overview pages as the authoritative entry points; applications and case actions generally route through your county DSS:
https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy-[REDACTED] **[3]**
https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/Services/Financial-Assistance/How-to-Apply **[4]**

Section 6 — Public "Red Flag" Patterns (For Awareness Only)

The following markers do not prove misconduct, but they can indicate when additional verification is warranted:

- **Date mismatch:** payments/claims on days the child was not in care or not receiving the service.
- **Provider mismatch:** provider listed that the family never used.
- **Duration mismatch:** billing continues after termination/withdrawal.
- **Authorization mismatch:** billed hours exceed authorized hours (or care shown without authorization).
- **Identity mismatch:** records referencing a child/dependent you do not recognize.

Appendix A — Official North Carolina Resources

1. **DCDEE main site:** <https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/> **[1]**
2. **DCDEE Child Care Facility Search:** <https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/childcaresearch> **[2]**
3. **NCDHHS Child Care Subsidy overview:**
   <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy-[REDACTED]> **[3]**
4. **DCDEE "How to Apply" (Financial Assistance):**
   <https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/Services/Financial-Assistance/How-to-Apply> **[4]**
5. **NCDHHS Medicaid OCPI (Program Integrity):**
   <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetingsnotices/office-compliance-program-integrity-ocpi> **[5]**
6. **NCDHHS Report Fraud:** <https://www.ncdhhs.gov/contact/report-fraud> **[6]**
7. **NC General Statutes — Chapter 132 (Public Records):**
   <https://www.ncleg.gov/Laws/GeneralStatuteSections/Chapter132> **[7]**

Appendix B — Selected Legal and Policy References (Short Excerpts)

B.1 NC Public Records definition (G.S. 132-1)

Short excerpt (definition language): "Public record" or "public records" shall mean all documents … "made or received … in connection with the transaction of public business …" **[8]**

B.2 Federal CCDF confidentiality (45 CFR Part 98)

Federal child care subsidy rules (CCDF) include confidentiality requirements for personally identifiable information. eCFR reference: https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-98/subpart-B/section-98.15 **[9]**

References (Citation List)

1. [1] North Carolina DHHS — Division of Child Development and Early Education.
   https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/
2. [2] North Carolina DHHS — Child Care Facility Search.
   https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/childcaresearch
3. [3] North Carolina DHHS. "Child Care Subsidy (Help Paying for Child Care)."
   https://www.ncdhhs.gov/assistance/childrens-services/child-care-subsidy-[REDACTED]
4. [4] North Carolina DHHS — DCDEE. "Application Process — How to Apply."
   https://ncchildcare.ncdhhs.gov/Services/Financial-Assistance/How-to-Apply
5. [5] North Carolina DHHS Medicaid. "Office of Compliance & Program Integrity (OCPI)."
   https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/meetingsnotices/office-compliance-program-integrity-ocpi
6. [6] North Carolina DHHS. "Report Fraud." https://www.ncdhhs.gov/contact/report-fraud
7. [7] North Carolina General Assembly. "General Statutes — Chapter 132: Public Records."
   https://www.ncleg.gov/Laws/GeneralStatuteSections/Chapter132
8. [8] North Carolina General Assembly. "Chapter 132 (HTML) — G.S. 132-1 (definition)."
   https://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/bychapter/chapter_132.html
9. [9] eCFR. "45 CFR § 98.15 — Assurances and certifications (CCDF)."
   https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-45/subtitle-A/subchapter-A/part-98/subpart-B/section-98.15

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